Patent
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Steven M. Mitchell
(Typed or printed name of person mailing application)

(Signature of person mailing application)

jc872 U.S. PTO
09/927567
08/09/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Dean F. Carson

Date:

Serial No:

Group Art Unit: 2831

Filed: herewith

For: "CAPACITOR WITH THERMOSEALED POLYMERIC CASE FOR IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE"

Examiner: N. Ha

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

In the specification:

On page 2, please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

"This is a divisional of copending application serial No. 09/272,902, filed on March 19, 1999."

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-17.

A marked up version of the the changes entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" is attached.

Please charge any fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 22-0265. If any addition extension fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 22-0265. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification:

On page 2, before the first line, amendment is made as follows:

This is a divisional of copending application serial No. 09/272,902, filed on March 19, 1999.

In the claims:

Claims 1 – 17 have been deleted.

[1. A method of manufacturing an electrolytic capacitor comprising the steps:

forming a polymeric housing defining a chamber and having an opening providing access to the chamber;

stacking a plurality of flat conductive layers to generate a stack;

inserting the stack into the chamber;

extending an electrically conductive feedthrough from the stack to a position outside of the chamber by way of the opening; and

sealing the opening about the feedthrough.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sealing includes thermally affixing together portions of the housing with the feedthrough trapped therebetween.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of forming the housing includes vacuum forming the housing.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of forming the housing includes heating a sheet of polymeric material, and conforming it to a tool.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the tool has a shape based on the shape of the stack.

6. The method of claim 1 including providing a sleeve about the feedthrough, wherein the sleeve material is different from the conductive feedthrough material.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the sleeve has an elongated cross section.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the sleeve cross section terminates at acute vertexes, such that the housing material may readily seal about the sleeve without voids.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein the sleeve is an elastomeric material.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the housing is formed of high density polyethylene.

11. The method of claim 1 including inserting the stack into the housing by way of the opening.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sealing comprises welding opposite sides of the housing together along a single line.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sealing includes generating and maintaining compression of the feedthrough to provide a fluid seal.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sealing includes connecting a header to the housing to enclose the opening.

15. The method of claim 14 including capturing the feedthrough between the housing and the header.

16. The method of claim 1 including sealing a vent element into the opening.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein sealing includes a first sealing operation in which an aperture to the chamber is maintained, and including the steps of filling the chamber with electrolyte by way of the aperture, and sealing the aperture.]